IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Seiji HAMANO et al.

Serial No.: New Application

Filed: December 27, 2001

For: INSPECTION METHOD FOR MASTER DISK

FOR MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIA

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following specification changes as noted below:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

- 6. (Amended) The inspection method according to claim 4, wherein after aligning the image of the information recording section with the non-defective information with respect to the image of said marks, said step (d) repeats:
- (d-1) dividing the image of the information recording section to obtain a division image;
- (d-2) generating the non-defective information of a corresponding part each time said division image is obtained; and
- (d-3) comparing said division image with the non-defective information of the corresponding part to inspect the geometric pattern of the division image of the information

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 remain pending herein. Claim 6 has been amended hereby.

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to eliminate multiply dependent claims from the above-identified application.

Examination of this application on its merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.

December 27, 2001

Date

Roger W. Parkhurst Registration No. 25,177

RWP/mhs

Attachment: Claim Mark-ups

Attorney Docket No. YMOR:235

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P. 1421 Prince Street, Suite 210 Alexandria, Virginia 22314-2805

Telephone: (703) 739-0220

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

- 6. (Amended) The inspection method according to claim 4 [or 5], wherein after aligning the image of the information recording section with the non-defective information with respect to the image of said marks, said step (d) repeats:
- (d-1) dividing the image of the information recording section to obtain a division image;
- (d-2) generating the non-defective information of a corresponding part each time said division image is obtained; and
- (d-3) comparing said division image with the nondefective information of the corresponding part to inspect the geometric pattern of the division image of the information recording section.